

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. . An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David Victor (Reg. No. 39,867) on 21 April 2008.
3. The claims had been amended *as presented in the fax received on **23 April 2008** and hereto attached.*

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims **1,4-14, 17-26, 28 and 31-40** are allowed.
 - a. As to **claim 1**, the prior art of record does not expressly teach reporting to the operating system that the determined devices are dependent on the virtual bus, wherein in response to being notified that the determined devices and virtual bus are dependent, the operating system will not remove the device interface driver representing the virtual bus until the device drivers associated with the determined devices are removed; and reporting to the operating system that a power state of the virtual bus represented by the device interface driver cannot be altered until all the device drivers representing

devices attached to the virtual bus have their power state similarly altered when taken in the context of the claim as a whole. More over, the art of record does not provide a basis of evidence for asserting a motivation driven from the art or from one knowledgeable in the art, that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have modified a method for interfacing with device hardware supporting a plurality of devices to combine the disclosed limitations as recited in the context of **Claim 1**.

b. As to **Claim 14**, being directed to a system having substantially the same limitations as **Claim 1**, this claim is allowable for the same reasoning as recited in **Claims 1** above.

c. As to **Claim 26**, being directed to a system having substantially the same limitations as **Claim 1**, this claim is allowable for the same reasoning as recited in **Claims 1** above.

d. As to **Claim 28**, being directed to a product having substantially the same limitations as **Claim 1**, this claim is allowable for the same reasoning as recited in **Claims 1** above.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Abdou Seye whose telephone number is (571) 270-1062. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, contact the examiner's supervisor, An Meng at (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for formal or official faxes to Technology Center 3600 is (571) 273-8300. Draft or informal faxes, which will not be entered in the application, may be submitted directly to the examiner at (571) 273-6722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-3600.

AKS

April 21, 2008

/Meng-Ai An/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195